

§Appl. No. 09/646,924
Amdt. dated April 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of, January 27, 2004

REMARKS

It is stated in the Office action that the claimed response element is not described in the Specification.

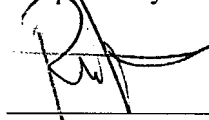
Applicant draws the Examiner's attention to the following disclosures which expressly describe the region from -198 to +24: Page 13, line 17; Page 15, line 2; Page 27, lines 37; Page 30, lines 33- 37; Figure 6; Figure 7. Accordingly, it is evident that claims are fully supported by the specification as filed.

The claims have been amended as suggested, by replacing the term "the" with "a."

In view of the above remarks, favorable reconsideration is courteously requested. If there are any remaining issues which could be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone counsel at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard M. Lebovitz, Reg. No. 37,067
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410
Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-2157
Date: April 16, 2004